

Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*96th plenary meeting  
11 December 1987*

#### 42/167. World Tourism Organization

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 32/156 and 32/157 of 19 December 1977, 33/122 of 19 December 1978 and 34/134 of 14 December 1979 concerning the World Tourism Organization, and, in particular, resolution 40/172 of 17 December 1985 in which it requested the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization to submit to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the Manila Declaration<sup>8</sup> and the Acapulco Document<sup>9</sup> on World Tourism,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization,<sup>10</sup>

*Requests* the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the further implementation of resolution 40/172.

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#### 42/168. Fortieth anniversary of the World Health Organization

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/76 of 8 July 1987,

*Noting* that the World Health Organization intends to celebrate its fortieth anniversary during 1988 in accordance with World Health Assembly resolution WHA40.36, of 15 May 1987,<sup>11</sup>

*Noting also* that the World Health Organization will use the occasion of its fortieth anniversary as a global opportunity to inform and mobilize all concerned with a view to achieving the goal of health for all by the year 2000 in an atmosphere of goodwill, consensus and mutual respect,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the important achievements of the World Health Organization in fulfilling its constitutional mandate to direct and co-ordinate international health work,

*Decides* to observe, at its forty-third session, the fortieth anniversary of the World Health Organization in a manner befitting its achievements and future role in international health.

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#### 42/169. International decade for natural disaster reduction

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3345 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which it requested the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to provide facilities for co-ordinated multidisciplinary research also at the regional level aimed at synthesizing, integrating and advancing existing knowledge on the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development, in order to assist Member States, particularly the developing countries, and the organizations of the United Nations system in their efforts to cope with the complex and multidimensional problems related to this field in the context of social and economic development,

*Noting with appreciation* the important contribution made by the World Commission on Environment and Development, as reflected in its report,<sup>12</sup> which calls for new national and international approaches in dealing with the various factors affecting the environment, including natural disasters,

*Considering* that natural disasters, such as earthquakes, windstorms (cyclones, hurricanes, tornadoes, typhoons), tsunamis, floods, landslides, volcanic eruptions, wildfires and other calamities of natural origin, have claimed about 3 million lives worldwide in the past two decades, adversely affected the lives of at least 800 million more people and resulted in immediate damages exceeding \$23 billion,

*Considering also* that, among disasters of natural origin, drought and desertification are resulting in enormous damage, particularly in Africa, where the recent drought threatened the lives of more than 20 million people and uprooted millions of others,

*Recognizing* that the effects of such disasters may damage very severely the fragile economic infrastructure of developing countries, especially the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, and thus hamper their development process,

*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, particularly the section concerning natural disasters and the merits of proposals that have been made to stimulate international study, planning and preparations on this subject over the next decade under the auspices of the United Nations,<sup>13</sup>

*Also taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the existing mechanisms and arrangements within the United Nations system for disaster and emergency assistance and co-ordination,<sup>14</sup>

*Recognizing* the responsibility of the United Nations system for promoting international co-operation in the study of natural disasters of geophysical origin and in the development of techniques to mitigate risks arising therefrom, as well as for co-ordinating disaster relief, preparedness and prevention, including prediction and early warning,

*Convinced* that concerted international action for the reduction of natural disasters over the course of the 1990s would give genuine impetus to a series of concrete measures at the national, regional and international levels,

*Recognizing* that the primary responsibility for defining the general goals and directions of efforts undertaken in

<sup>8</sup> A/36/236, annex, appendix I.

<sup>9</sup> A/38/182-E/1983/66, annex, appendix.

<sup>10</sup> A/42/227-E/1987/65.

<sup>11</sup> See *World Health Organization, Fortieth World Health Assembly, Geneva, 4-15 May 1987. Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes (WHA40/1987/REC/1)*.

<sup>12</sup> See A/42/427, annex.

<sup>13</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/42/1), sect. II.*

<sup>14</sup> A/42/657.